

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

JAMES M. SAYLOR,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STATE OF NEBRASKA and NDCS,

Defendants.

**8:20CV264**

**MEMORANDUM  
AND ORDER**

Plaintiff, a state prisoner who is currently confined at the Lincoln Correctional Center, has filed a motion for an order directing the clerk of the court to provide Plaintiff with copies of various rules related to service of process, a copy of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a copy of the court's local rules, and copies of "anything else that the court would consider providing to indigent pro se petitioners, including prisoners." (Filing 14.) The motion will be denied.

The court cannot provide legal advice to a pro se litigant. *See Bernhardt v. Johns*, 2009 WL 971443, at \* 2 (D. Neb. Apr. 8, 2009). The court has previously advised Plaintiff, however, that if it determines an amended pleading is not subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A, it then will direct the clerk of the court to issue summons and on its own motion will grant additional time for service of process. (Filing 13.)

Plaintiff's motion does not indicate he lacks access to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or this court's local rules.<sup>1</sup> The court has no copyright in the Federal Rules, and no authority to distribute copies at will. *Walker v. Shafer*, No. 5:16-CV-05121-JLV, 2019 WL 1369594, at \*3 (D.S.D. Mar. 26, 2019); *see also Scales v. Noonan*, No. 19-CV-1382-PP, 2020 WL 5774994, at \*7 (E.D. Wis. Sept. 28, 2020)

---

<sup>1</sup> The local rules are available at <https://www.ned.uscourts.gov/attorney/local-rules>.

(“The court cannot send a copy of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to every incarcerated plaintiff—the rule book is large, heavy and expensive.”). Plaintiff may obtain a printed copy of the local Civil Rules by contacting the clerk’s office and paying any necessary fees. *See* NEGenR 1.1(e); District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, available at <https://www.ned.uscourts.gov/fees> (“The court may charge and collect fees commensurate with the cost of providing copies of the local rules of court. The court may also distribute copies of the local rules without charge.”).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff’s motion requesting copies of rules, etc. (Filing 14) is denied.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



Richard G. Kopf  
Senior United States District Judge